

II. REMARKS

A. Status of Claims

Claims 1-9, 11-43 and 107-112 were pending at the time of the Action. New claims 113-118 have been added. Support for the new claims is found in the specification and claims as originally filed. Claim 13 has been amended herein without prejudice or disclaimer, with support for the amendments found in the specification as originally filed, as discussed below. Therefore, claims 1-9, 11-43 and 107-118 are pending.

B. Amendments to the Specification and Claims

Claim 13 has been amended to include additional sacrificial agents that can be characterized as ethers. Support for the added agents is found, for example, in claims 21, 31 and 51 of the claims as originally filed.

Claims 113-118 are new dependent claims that are also related to sacrificial agents that can be characterized as ethers. Support for the terms used in these claims and for the specific compounds is found, for example, in claims 13, 21, 31 and 51 of the claims as originally filed. Support for the term “glycol ether” can be found, for example, on lines 31 and 32 of page 16, as well as on line 3 of page 19, of the specification as originally filed. Support for the term “polyglycol” can be found, for example, on line 3 of page 19 of the specification as originally filed.

No new matter is added by the above amendments. Furthermore, the amendments are not in response to any request, objection, or rejection by the Examiner and do not create any estoppel or adversely affect the rights of Applicants or scope or interpretation of Applicants claims in any manner.

C. Response to Species Election Requirement

In response to the species election requirement, Applicants elect to have the initial examination of this case conducted with Group 2 as defined in the Action:

2) alcohols, diols, polyols, ethers, esters, carboxylic acids, carboxylic acid derivatives, aromatic sulfonates, amines, alcoholamines, amides, ammonium salts, and polyglycols.

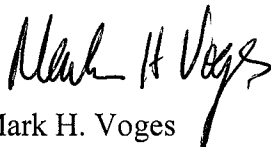
Action at page 2. From that group Applicants elect to have the initial examination conducted with ethers. From within the ethers, Applicants further elect to have the initial examination conducted with the species ethylene glycol phenyl ether. Applicants submit that claim 116 is readable on the elected species and that claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, 13, 24-43 and 107-115 are readable on and generic with regard to the elected species.

Applicants reserve the right to have claims to all additional species considered, if any of generic claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, 13, 24-43 and 107-115 are found to be allowable.

Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No. 50-1212/KEGB:004US.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark H. Voges". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Voges" clearly distinguishable.

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